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DEC 18 2007

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of :
Fiona Millar :
Application No. 08/999,752 :
Filed: June 4, 1997 :
Attorney Docket No. 7755/0D276 :

ON PETITION

This is a decision on the petition under the unintentional provisions of 37 CFR 1.137(b), filed May 21, 2007, to revive the above-identified application.

The petition is **DISMISSED**.

Any request for reconsideration of this decision must be submitted within TWO (2) MONTHS from the mail date of this decision. Extensions of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) are permitted. The reconsideration request should include a cover letter entitled "Renewed Petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b)." This is **not** a final agency action within the meaning of 5 U.S.C. § 704.

This application was held abandoned November 23, 2003 for failure to timely reply to the final Office Action mailed on August 22, 2002. The final Office Action set a three (3) month extendable time period for reply. A Notice of Abandonment was mailed October 5, 2004. A petition under 37 CFR 1.181 was dismissed April 16, 2007.

A grantable petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b) must be accompanied by: (1) the required reply, unless previously filed; (2) the petition fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(m); (3) a statement that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional; and (4) any terminal disclaimer (and fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.20(d)) required by 37 CFR 1.137(d). Where there is a question as to whether either the abandonment or the delay in filing a petition under 37 CFR 1.137 was unintentional, the Director may require additional information. See MPEP 711.03(c)(II)(C) and (D). The instant petition lacks item(s) 1.

Petitioner seeks the entry of a CPA and a three month extension of time as the reply to the final Office action. 37 CFR 1.53(d)(1) has been amended to provide that CPA practice under 37 CFR 1.53(d) does not apply to utility and plant applications. Effective July 14, 2003, a CPA may only be filed if the prior nonprovisional application is a design application that is complete as defined by 37 CFR 1.51(b).

If the CPA does not satisfy the requirements of 37 CFR 1.114 to be a proper RCE (e.g., lacks a submission under 37 CFR 1.114(b), or is not accompanied by the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e)), the improper CPA will be treated as an improper RCE, and the time period set in the last Office action (or notice of allowance) will continue to run. If the time period (considering any available extension under 37 CFR 1.136(a)) has expired, the applicant will need to file a petition under 37 CFR 1.137 (with the lacking submission under 37 CFR 1.114(b) or fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e)) to revive the abandoned application.

The request for CPA submitted on February 24, 2003 was not entered because the CPA filing fee and required three month extension of time were not submitted. The deposit account contained insufficient funds to cover the fees. Accordingly, petitioner cannot rely on the previously submitted CPA to overcome the July 14, 2003 date bar.

The proposed reply required for consideration of a petition to revive must be a Notice of Appeal (and appeal fee required by 37 CFR 41.20(b)(2)), an amendment that *prima facie* places the application in condition for allowance, a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and submission (37 CFR 1.114), or the filing of a continuing application under 37 CFR 1.53(b). See MPEP 711.03(c)(III)(A)(2).

Further correspondence with respect to this matter should be addressed as follows:

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The centralized facsimile number is (571) 273-8300.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3215.



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